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In Brief

CONFIRMED: The U.S. Senate confirmed former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge as the first secretary of homeland security on Jan. 22, by a vote of 94-0. The new Department of Homeland Security is scheduled to begin operations Jan. 24.

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Military communications programs may be accelerated, Sega says

A senior Pentagon official said Jan. 22 that research and development programs likely to be accelerated are those involving battlefield communications technologies.

"The [programs] that come back to immediate needs [are those] helping with some of the communications-related areas, whether it be bringing systems together in an integrated and fused way or enabling more effective communications between coalition partners," according to Ronald Sega, the Defense Department's director of defense research and engineering.

Research being conducted by private industry and academia, as well as experiments conducted by Defense Department laboratories, are helping develop applications for

those research areas, Sega said.

"There is a push and pull that's very healthy between the folks that are there understanding what's needed in the field, and the technologies that are maturing," he said at a media briefing in Washington sponsored by Defense Week.

"It's pushing technology forward, but it's also listening to the needs and trying to adapt what you are currently working on for that particular application."

Two technologies developed as a result of this process include a language translator developed by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) for use in Afghanistan and a "water pen" that can purify water, he said.

Military, Page 2

Aeronautics research and development bill nears another chance in Congress

Congress will soon be asked to take another look at a proposal to dramatically increase funding for aeronautics research and development.

Rep. John Larson (D-Conn.) introduced a bill last year that would have doubled aeronautics R&D funding at NASA and the FAA. That legislation picked up significant congressional support but did not pass the House or Senate before the 107th Congress ended.

With the new 108th Congress getting started, Larson plans to reintroduce his bill within the next few weeks, a spokesman for the congressman told The DAILY Jan.

22. Larson's new legislation is expected to be similar to last year's proposal, though details are still being working out.

"There might be some fairly minor changes, but nothing of great significance," the spokesman said. "The basic core of the bill will remain the same: doubling research and development funding for NASA and the FAA."

Under Larson's original bill, introduced in May 2002 (DAILY, May 1, 2002; May 6, 2002), aeronautics R&D funding would have doubled over five years to \$1.15 bil-

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Another accelerated program involves reducing the weight of batteries used by soldiers in the field by intensifying their energy-generating capability.

Such programs "are not easy," Sega said. "But if you have them, they're sure winners to help folks in the field," he said.

Future Combat Systems

Sega said he has been "impressed" by the Army's decision to fund some technologies for its Future Combat Systems program, including those for lighter-weight vehicles, power generation and propulsion.

"From what I've seen in technology development, things have moved right along," he said. As a result, the Army appears to be on track to deploy the first elements of its Objective Force in the 2008-10 timeframe, he said.

"I think they've made, from where I sit, very good decisions in where they invest and the technologies they're looking at."

Reusable Launch Vehicle

NASA's decision to cancel its program to develop a second-generation reusable launch vehicle (RLV) in favor of a third-generation vehicle enhances the DOD's efforts to build a hypersonic RLV capable of reaching speeds of up to Mach 12, Sega said.

Under the National Aerospace Initiative, the DOD is teaming with NASA, DARPA, other government agencies, the intelligence community and private industry to develop technologies in three key areas: hypersonic vehicles, or vehicles capable of traveling above Mach 5; access to space; and advanced space technology (DAILY, March 15, 2002).

"The third [generation vehicle] is what aligns exactly with the high speed, hypersonic effort," he said.

Future collaboration between DOD and NASA in developing a demonstrator RLV may involve one agency providing the engine while the other provides the airframe, Sega said.

"Some of these demonstrations are a full integration between NASA's effort and the DOD's," he said.

- Nick Jonson (nick_jonson@AviationNow.com)

Northrop Grumman to continue production of F/A-18 assemblies, parts under new contract

Northrop Grumman Integrated Systems will continue production of replacement structural assemblies and spare parts for the Boeing F/A-18 Hornet under a \$47.4 million U.S. Navy contract, the company said Jan. 22.

The work will extend the service life of F/A-18 aircraft operated by the U.S. Navy and CF-18s operated by the Canadian Defence Force, the company said.

Integrated Systems will provide 37 center barrel fuselage sections and 12 engine nacelles for the U.S. Navy and 34 center barrels and spare parts for Canadian CF-18s. The components and parts are for A/B/C/D models. The center barrel is the attachment point for the wings and main landing gear.

The work is to be completed by April 2007 and will be performed at the Integrated Systems facility in El Segundo, Calif.

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lion at NASA and to \$550 million at the FAA. The bill, designed to make the U.S. aerospace industry more competitive internationally by reversing a long-term slide in aeronautics R&D spending, had almost 50 House co-sponsors and enjoyed the support of the Aerospace Industries Association.

But Larson faced an uphill battle last year. Partisan gridlock made it difficult for Congress to pass even its must-pass annual appropriations bills. Larson had viewed the NASA authorization bill as a potential vehicle for his legislation, but Congress never got around to the authorization measure.

Several factors could improve Larson's chances this year. He is getting an early start in the new two-year Congress, and proposals that make significant changes sometimes do better the second time around.

In addition, Congress seems poised to take up a NASA authorization bill this year, now that the agency has provided more detailed plans for several programs, including the International Space Station. Larson, whose congressional district is home to engine maker Pratt & Whitney, is a member of the House Science Committee, which would write the authorization bill.

Larson could also benefit from the November release of a report by the congressionally mandated aerospace commission. The commission made an "urgent call for action" to shore up the U.S. aerospace industry, which faces growing competition from foreign aerospace firms and shrinking demand for commercial aviation and commercial space launches (DAILY, Nov. 19, 2002).

But Larson could still face a tough fight this year, as growing federal budget deficits may make Congress wary of taking on new spending initiatives.

- Marc Selinger (marc_selinger@AviationNow.com)

Bidders await decision on Athens C&C center

Three months after rival consortiums led by SAIC and ThalesRaytheonSystems submitted bids for a contract to build a command and control center for the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greek officials still haven't picked a winner.

The winner of the contract, expected to total at least \$250 million, hasn't been named even though both sides have cut their bids by more than a third. However, an announcement could come any day.

"I couldn't tell you when today they're going to make a decision," said David Tubbs, SAIC's vice presi-

dent for special security events.

Neither competitor has approached Greece's initial asking price of 211 million euros, but both seem willing to deal.

On Dec. 24, SAIC trimmed its price estimate from 400 million to 270 million euros, Tubbs said. Raytheon countered by reducing its proposal from 700 million euros to about 400 million, he said.

After another month of deliberation, it's clear that the low-bidder isn't the automatic favorite in the competition, according to Tubbs.

After the Olympics, Greek officials plan to transition the security center into a national security command post, equipped with radars, modern communications and battle management systems, so the contracting process is being heavily scrutinized, he said.

The extended review process in Athens has triggered alarms at SAIC's competitor Raytheon, which is half the international joint venture formed two years ago with France's Thales.

"There is one thing we do know: the date the Olympics is," said Raytheon International CEO Thomas M. Culligan [DAILY, Jan. 3]. "They're going to march into the stadium and everything backs up from that. That isn't going to change. [TRS and rival bidder SAIC] have said to the Greek government that both teams have to be on contract as soon as possible."

Tubbs said the review is "a process that's not unique" in Greece.

"There's never really been an official timeline," he said. "So, you know, we talk about delays and other issues like that ... [but] they've never really given us a date."

SAIC has proposed a security center composed of the Command and Decision Support System (CDSS), Communication and Information System (CIS), and perhaps a Command Centers System (CCS) for the games, scheduled for August 2004.

The contract calls for the contractor to design and install the command and control center in one year. Both competitors were involved in security during the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, and are drawing on that expertise to design the system in Athens.

Both competitors estimate the Greeks will need several months of training before the center can be operational, meaning that late March could mark the drop-dead date for the contract, Tubbs said.

Training involves thousands of Greek security officials, ranging from local first responders to military officials and NATO AWACS crews, and is "something as simple as learning how to use the radios," he said.

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The contract also marks a critical test for the future of ThalesRaytheonSystems, a pioneering joint venture that has been constrained by lengthy export control license reviews and cultural adjustments, Culligan said.
-Stephen Trimble (*stephen_trimble@AviationNow.com*)

Stenbit: Milcom to adopt Internet-like download system

Within the next few years, military communications will shift to an Internet-like, "smart pull" system in which warfighters will request information from a global network only when they need it, according to John Stenbit, deputy assistant secretary of defense for command, control, and communications (C3).

"If we had enough bandwidth, we could tell [NIMA], 'Please post your pictures,' and let everybody pull it down, like the Internet," Stenbit said at the Institute for Defense and Government Advancement's Network Centric Warfare 2003 conference in Arlington, Va., Jan. 22. "To do that, we need more bandwidth, because that picture is going to be pulled by more than one person at a time."

When its images are "posted on the net," a radar system on an F/A-22 or Joint Strike Fighter can become just as effective an intelligence sensor as a satellite radar, according to Stenbit.

In addition, "I now no longer have to spend the money at the receiving end to store everything, to listen to different things, because it's all stored on the net, and multiple people can go to the same place and pull it down," he said. "I would assert to you that within a couple of years, we're going to be doing that big time, and within 10 years, we're going to be doing that anywhere in the world."

TCS

To provide the bandwidth needed for such operations, DOD is proceeding with the Transformational Communications System (TCS), which will link ground-based fiber optic cables to space using lasers to transmit data to and from the ground, and between satellites. The current goal for TCS is to have a first launch by the end of this decade.

"We're [starting] this program that's going to provide 90 sites around the world [with] 10 gigabits per second," Stenbit said. This year, \$500 million has been appropriated for the project, he said.

In two years, DOD will decide whether to halt the Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) milcom satellite program in favor of switching to a laser-based

satcom system, Stenbit said (DAILY, Dec. 20, 2002).

AEHF is designed as a follow-on to the existing Milstar satcom system. Lockheed Martin and TRW won the contract to build the first two AEHF satellites in 2001 (DAILY, Nov. 20, 2001).

Last year, a Defense Department study determined that a satellite laser communication system is feasible and could meet or exceed the capability provided by AEHF satellites four and five (DAILY, July 18, 2002).

-Jefferson Morris (*jeff_morris@AviationNow.com*)

Energia designers approve upper stage modification

MOSCOW - RSC Energia said its council of chief designers has approved a draft project for a modified Block DM-SL B upper stage, which the company said could fly as early as 2004.

The new upper stage is intended for use on Zenit-3 vehicles that would launch from Kazakhstan's Baikonur Cosmodrome, as part of a joint Land Launch project between the Sea Launch company and Russian and Ukrainian space companies.

Paula Korn, the director of communications for Sea Launch, said the company is working with Russian and Ukrainian companies to evaluate the Land Launch idea.

"We're looking at the business case for launching from land at Baikonur," Korn told The DAILY. "We're looking at this to fill another market niche ... we're looking at what it will take, what will be the cost involved, is there a demand for it."

A decision could come within the next couple of months, she said.

A Land Launch option could be good for customers with small payloads who don't need Sea Launch's equatorial launch services, Korn said.

Sea Launch is a partnership between Boeing Commercial Space of the U.S., RSC Energia of Russia, Kvaerner of Norway and SDO Yuzhnoye/PO Yuzhmash of Ukraine, with Boeing holding the largest stake.

Flight testing of the upper stage could begin as early as mid-2004, the council of designers said, if the Land Launch project continues and improvements are made to Baikonur's infrastructure.

During a visit to St. Petersburg for a Sea Launch board meeting in July, Yuri Semyonov, RSC Energia's president and general designer, suggested that Russia could create a national sea-launch system based on Sea Launch's experience. No update of these plans was provided in Energia's announcement of the upper stage modification draft project approval.

-Dmitry Pieson (*dpieson@mail.ru*)

8th Air Force is testbed for network-centric ops

With most of the Air Force's command, control, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (C2ISR) aircraft recently assigned to it, the 8th Air Force is serving as the Air Force's testbed for network-centric operations, according to its commander, Lt. Gen. Bruce Carlson.

"Due to historical and organizational factors, it felt like a rigid barrier ... existed between combat Air Force warriors, and the information warfare and intelligence warriors that reported directly to the Pentagon," Carlson said at a network-centric warfare symposium in Arlington, Va., Jan. 22.

"Our goal, then, is to break down this wall. Our job is to train, test, exercise, and demonstrate integrated force packages of information operations, [C2ISR], and kinetic and non-kinetic attack capabilities," he said.

The 8th Air Force began assuming its leadership role in February 2001, Carlson said, when the Air Force realigned its two intelligence and information operations wings under it. On Oct. 1, 2002, all the Air Force's C2ISR aircraft were put under Carlson's command, while its B-1B bombers and most of its fighters were moved out.

The realignments were made so "a single commander now could focus on training, exercising, and deploying an integrated package of sensors, battle managers, and shooters, and could then work the tactics, techniques, and procedures," Carlson said. "For the first time, this gives a single numbered air force elements of the entire kill chain, from end to end."

As "netcentric-compatible radios, links, and command applications become available," 8th Air Force will integrate them into its concept of operations, Carlson said. Lessons learned will be disseminated in part through exercises, he said.

Headquartered at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., the 8th Air Force is one of three active-duty numbered air forces in Air Combat Command. It includes B-2 and B-52 bombers, E-8C Joint STARS, EC-130H Compass Call, E-3B Sentry, RC-135 Rivet Joint, and U-2S aircraft.

- Jefferson Morris (jeff_morris@AviationNow.com)

Graphic displays have key role beyond training, company says

SAN DIEGO - Graphic displays will play a key role in the planning, training, and conduct of combat operations should military action against Iraq be necessary, said John Burwell, senior director of government industry for Silicon Graphics, Inc. (SGI).

Systems will include advanced Area Air Defense

Commander (AADC) systems, flight simulators that can integrate aircraft around the world and mission planning stations that enable pilots to "fly" their missions before takeoff, Burwell told *The DAILY*.

Burwell said the USS Shiloh, part of the Abraham Lincoln carrier battle group deployed to the Persian Gulf, is one of only three U.S. Navy ships with the General Dynamics-supplied AADC. SGI provides the graphic supercomputers and displays for the system. AADC could enable the Joint Forces Air Component Commander to control the daily management of the air war with Iraq from the Shiloh if land-based assets are not available, he said.

AADC is a major advance over the command and control capabilities available to the Navy during Desert Storm, Burwell told *The DAILY* during the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association and U.S. Naval Institute West 2003 conference here.

In addition to gathering and displaying combat operations data from multiple sources and showing aircraft, missiles, and other items in easily recognized symbols on a 3-D grid, AADC can be used for displaying, working through and refining options for operation plans before they are executed.

Topscape

Navy and Air Force aircrews and Army Special Forces probably already are using the Lockheed Martin Topscene Mission Rehearsal System, which employs SGI computers and displays, to virtually fly-through to possible targets in Baghdad, Burwell said.

"It has been used many times by pilots preparing for missions in Afghanistan, Bosnia, and other places," he said. "It just gets better and better as the satellite and other sources of imagery get better. The pilot can look at the hostile environment from a variety of angles and know what things need to be avoided to survive and get the mission accomplished."

The Topscene unit is compact - a graphics supercomputer and workstation desk with display, stick, and throttle that is no larger than a refrigerator. It can be configured to simulate a number of controls and actions, including fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters.

What Topscene does for individual aircrews, the Air Force's Distributed Mission Training (DMT) program does for multi-aircraft training, Burwell said.

Topscene is a mission preparation tool. The pilot can become familiar with an area where a mission will occur. DMT puts that, and a lot more, into a full-mission training environment ... multiple simulators for different aircraft can be linked, not just at a specific installation, but around the world if needed," he said.

- John Terino

Norway narrows warfighting focus as defense budget rises

PORTSMOUTH, Va. - Norway is focusing on bolstering its niche warfighting capabilities as the NATO ally plans a three-year increase in defense spending, defense minister Kristin Krohn Devold said here Jan. 21.

Norway's defense budget is projected to grow 7.5 percent annually until 2005, Devold said at a two-day NATO transformation conference here called "Open Road 2003." Meanwhile, procurement accounts will rise at a faster rate and will make up a third of the budget by 2005, she said.

Norway's strategy is to forge a closer relationship within a NATO by focusing on a number of niche military roles as it continues to dismantle a legacy infrastructure once designed to fight the Soviet Union, Devold said.

Norway is specializing in some areas that are unique to its Scandinavian environment, such as littoral and cold-weather operations. The country also is pushing forward on building a stronger explosive ordnance detection capability, which can be called on as a shared resource by the alliance. "Every member of NATO can no longer achieve an acceptable proficiency within every field of military practice," Devold said.

Such a realization is driving many of NATO's 19 members to focus spending on narrow warfighting roles, a policy embraced by the NATO members at last fall's summit in Prague.

Devold cited Germany's growing expertise in the field of unmanned aerial vehicles, which soon could include a small fleet of Euro Hawks, and the Czech Republic's background in nuclear, biological and chemical detection as more opportunities for specialization.

In another example, Luxembourg has committed all its 900 troops to a specialized reconnaissance role.

"We need a discussion on how and who should do more of this and who should do less of that," Devold said. "It will take a real political effort behind transformation, as you have here in the U.S."

-Stephen Trimble (stephen_trimble@AviationNow.com)

GD quarterly profit falls after \$112 million charge

Fourth-quarter net earnings for General Dynamics Corp. in 2002 fell 36 percent from 2001 due to a charge taken for discontinued operations, the company said Jan. 22.

Earnings from continuing operations totaled \$269 million for the fourth quarter, compared with \$251 mil-

lion for the fourth quarter of 2001. Fourth quarter 2002 sales totaled \$3.9 billion, compared with \$3.5 billion for the same period in 2001.

But an after-tax charge of \$112 million drove down net earnings. The charge relates to the company's decision during the fourth quarter to sell its undersea fiber optic cable-laying business, which had been part of the company's Information Systems and Technology group since 1998.

As a result, net earnings for the fourth quarter totaled \$157 million, compared with \$246 million for the same period in 2001. The charge also drove overall net earnings down from \$1.05 billion to \$917 million in 2002, on sales of \$13.8 billion. That compares with earnings of \$943 million on sales of \$12 billion for 2001.

"As far as 2002 is concerned, all things considered, we had a good year," company Chairman and CEO Nicholas Chabraja said in a Jan. 22 conference call with investors and analysts. "Our core defense programs are wonderfully supported in the Congress, and it would appear, robustly supported in the administration's budget as well." Revenue growth over the next few years should be driven primarily by sales of information systems and combat systems rather than the company's aerospace group, which includes the Gulfstream Aerospace division, he added.

The company's Combat Systems group, which builds the M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank and other combat vehicles, recorded the strongest earnings for the fourth quarter. Operating earnings for Combat Systems totaled \$107 million for the fourth quarter of 2002 and \$323 million for the entire year. That compares with \$76 million for the fourth quarter of 2001 and \$238 million for the entire year.

The company's Marine Systems group, which includes the Electric Boat and Bath Iron Works divisions, recorded earnings of \$72 million for the fourth quarter of 2002, compared with \$65 million for the same period in 2001. Earnings for 2002 totaled \$287 million, compared with \$310 million for 2001.

The Information Systems and Technology (IS&T) group generated \$107 million in fourth-quarter earnings for 2002 on sales of \$993 million for the year. That compares with earnings of \$89 million for the fourth quarter of 2001 and \$261 million for the year.

In a separate announcement, the Army on Jan. 14 awarded General Dynamics Decision Systems, a business unit within the IS&T group, a \$100 million contract to streamline the process for international customers seeking to buy the company's radios and secure wireless and wireline equipment.

-Nick Jonson (nick_jonson@AviationNow.com)

Senate may tap X-band radar to boost PAC-3 production

The Senate is considering language that supports the Defense Department's request to transfer \$104 million to the Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) missile, but the measure would take some of the money from different sources than DOD had proposed.

The language, included in a fiscal 2003 non-defense appropriations package, rejects the Pentagon's proposal to take \$64 million in previously approved funds from unspecified midcourse missile defense systems, a congressional source told *The DAILY* late Jan. 21.

Instead, the measure takes \$13.9 million from the sea-based X-band radar that MDA plans to build to support the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) system. The legislation also deviates from DOD's request by tapping a classified program that had funds it could not spend, the source said.

The PAC-3 funding increase would allow DOD to hire a second shift and buy the equipment needed to double the monthly production rate from four missiles to eight immediately instead of waiting until next

year. The money also would procure 12 additional missiles to fill a production gap between the FY '03 and FY '04 buys.

Lawmakers generally support speeding up production of the Lockheed Martin PAC-3 missile, which soon could be used to shoot down Iraqi missiles in their terminal phase. But some had expressed concern about cutting funding for midcourse programs, which also are popular (*DAILY*, Dec. 9, 2002).

MDA has assured Congress that deployment of the X-band radar, scheduled for 2005, will not be delayed by the \$13.9 million cut, though some on Capitol Hill are skeptical, the congressional source said. An MDA spokesman declined to comment.

The X-band radar is designed to track target missiles and discriminate between warheads and decoys.

The Senate hopes to approve the appropriations package within the next few days. The legislation, which consists of the 11 remaining FY '03 appropriations bills, would then head to a conference committee with the House, which has not addressed the PAC-3 request in its appropriations bills.

- Marc Selinger (marc_selinger@AviationNow.com)

People on the Move

AEROSONIC, Clearwater, Fla.

Gary E. Colbert has joined the company as chief financial officer.

ALCOA, Pittsburgh, Pa.

William F. Christopher has been named executive vice president, Alcoa and group president for Alcoa Aerospace, Automotive and Commercial Transportation.

ALLIED DEFENSE GROUP, Vienna, Va.

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. (ret.) **John G. Meyer Jr.** will succeed U.S. Army Gen. (ret.) **J.H. Binford Peay III** as president and CEO.

DERCO AEROSPACE, Milwaukee, Wis.

Feyzan Dalay has been appointed to the new position of vice president of strategic/financial planning and development.

EUROPEAN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES, Brussels, Belgium

David Harari has been appointed president of the company, the European subsidiary of Israel Aircraft Industries.

HARRIS CORP., Melbourne, Fla.

Howard L. Lance has been named president and CEO and has been elected to the board of directors.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN INTEGRATED SYSTEMS, El Segundo, Calif.

Mary A. Simmerman has been appointed vice president of materiel.

SOUNDVIEW TECHNOLOGY GROUP, Old Greenwich, Conn.

Howard Rubel has joined the firm as managing director and equity analyst following the aerospace and defense electronics industry.

TERAFORCE TECHNOLOGY, Richardson, Texas

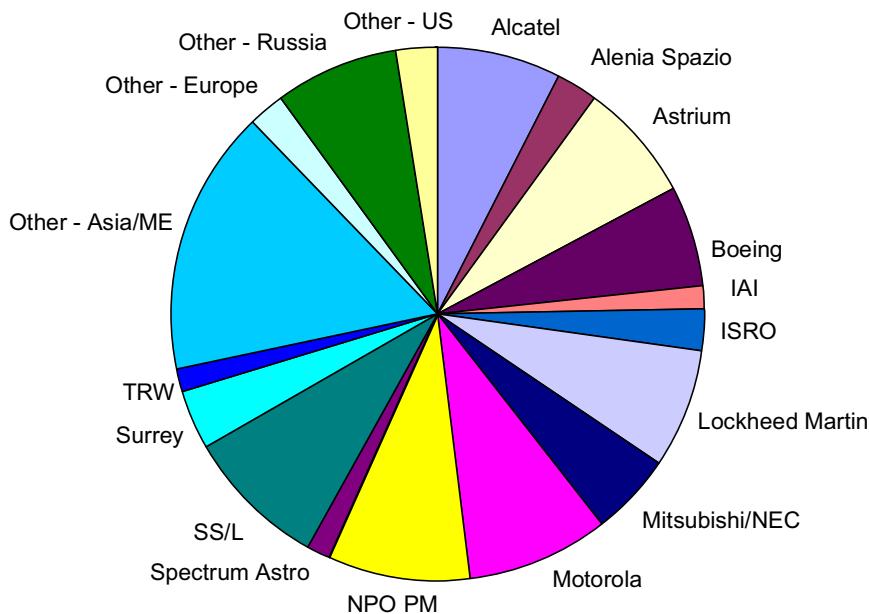
Harold F. Messias has been named vice president of sales and marketing for DNA Computing Solutions.

TRANSTECHNOLOGY, Union, N.J.

Robert L.G. White will succeed **Michael J. Berthelot** as president and CEO, effective upon completion of the sale of the company's Norco Inc. subsidiary. Berthelot will remain as chairman of the board.

Satellite Manufacturing Report

Manufacturer Market Share of Satellites Launched Through December 31, 2002

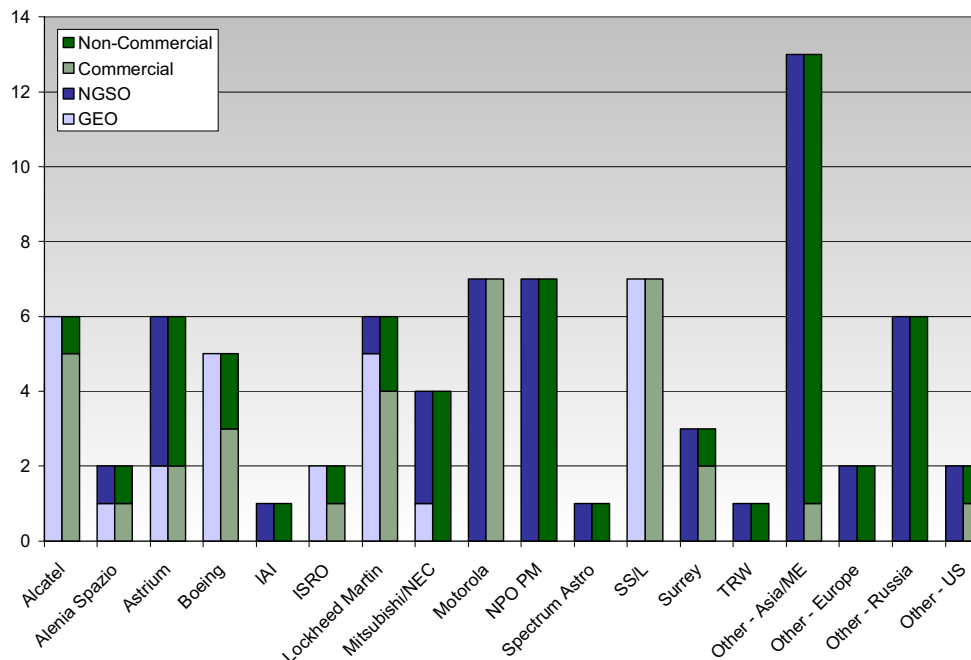


Manufacturer	Number	Share
Alcatel	6	7%
Alenia Spazio	2	2%
Astrium	6	7%
Boeing	5	6%
IAI	1	1%
ISRO	2	2%
Lockheed Martin	6	7%
Mistubishi/NEC	4	5%
Motorola	7	9%
NPO PM	7	9%
Spectrum Astro	1	1%
SS/L	7	9%
Surrey	3	4%
TRW	1	1%
Other - Asia/ME	13	16%
Other - Europe	2	2%
Other - Russia	6	7%
Other - US	2	2%
Total	81	100%

Manufacturers of Satellites Launched in 2002 by Orbit and Commercial Status

December Additions

Manufacturer	Payload
Boeing	TDRS J
Astrium	Hot Bird 7
	Stentor
Lockheed Martin	Nimiq 2
	NSS 6
Mitsubishi/NEC	ADEOS 2
NPO PM	Kosmos 2393
	Glonass M R4, MR5, MR6
Surrey	LatinSat 1
	LatinSat 2
Other - Asia/ME	FedSat 1
	MicroLabSat
	OlympicSat 1
	SaudiSat 2
	Shenzhou 4
	WEOS
Other - Europe	RUBIN 2
	Unisat 2
Other - US	Trailblazer Mass Simulator



Source: Futron Corp.

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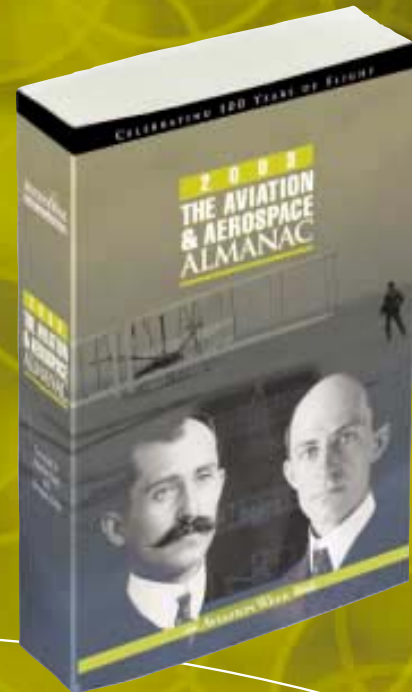
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